

It's your city's future **Have your** **say!**

A traditional proverb states "Too many cooks spoil the broth." Quite the opposite is true when it comes to planning for the future of a city. That's why two upcoming events encourage citizen participation in the planning process.

The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission welcomes input at its public listening forum Wednesday, May 17. The forum will cover topics included within the Long Range Transportation Plan and the efforts to update it.

"The Comprehensive Plan is a community plan, therefore, it's important to communicate with the public on their wishes and goals for the future of the city," said Eugene Carroll, Planning Commission Vice-Chair.

The forum is the public's opportunity to express their thoughts on the Comp Plan/LRTP update directly to the decision makers. Every comment will be included in the public record.

In addition to the listening forum, Public Works/Utilities hosts an open house Wednesday, May 3 to inform citizens of the Long Range Transportation Plan update and to receive citizen feedback.

According to Karl Fredrickson, Director of Public Works/Utilities, the open house is a great opportunity for citizens to learn about transportation planning and provide their own suggestions.

"It's the opportunity for people to have input on the future transportation network of Lincoln and I encourage people to come do that," Fredrickson said. "We have a lot of comments every day throughout the year about transportation in Lincoln and this is a chance to add those comments or make those suggestions before we're done."

Public Works/Utilities has developed eight transportation alternatives (See maps on Pages 3-5) with cost

estimates for each available at various stations during the open house. These alternative routes will later be narrowed to three by the Planning Commission, based on recommendations and public feedback.

"I encourage people to come to the open house in advance of the listening forum," Carroll said. "It is important to hear as much information as possible in making decisions about the future."

Carroll said members of the Planning Commission and staff from

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Long Range Transportation Plan Open House

**Wednesday, May 3
5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
Engineering Services
Training Room
531 Westgate Blvd.**

City/County Planning Commission

Public Listening Forum

**Wednesday, May 17
1:00 p.m.**

**County-City Building
Hearing Chambers
555 South 10th St.**

Events cover Transit Development Plan Update

A new study will examine the future of public transit for our growing city. You're invited to learn more about it at one of two Transit Development Plan open houses Thursday, May 11.

The first open house will be held at Energy Square, 1111 'O' St., Room 101, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The second open house will take place from 5 to 7 p.m. in the auditorium at Bennett Martin Library, 136 S. 14th St.

The purpose of the Transit Development Plan Study, an outgrowth of the Comprehensive Plan,

is to identify near- and long-term policies and action items to enhance transit service in Lincoln.

An important aspect of this study is a detailed public involvement effort including open houses, stakeholder meetings, user drop-in sessions and public meetings of the Transit Development Plan Advisory Committee.

Included in the plan will be a comprehensive operations analysis, development of near- and long-term transit

service alternatives, updated service standards and policies, management options and funding options.

The consultant on the project is Urbitran Associates, an engineer-



ing, architectural and planning firm headquartered in New York City. The findings of the study will be used to update the Comprehensive Plan and to identify action items for the city to enhance transit service in Lincoln.



Get involved with an open house, listening forum

Continued from Page 1

the Planning Department and Public Works/Utilities will be on hand for questions and comments during the open house.

Lincoln and Lancaster County adopted the Comprehensive Plan in 2002. The plan forms a common vision to guide development into 2025. This document includes the desired pattern of land uses and public facilities necessary to support growth. The Long Range Transportation Plan forms an important section of this plan. It describes an evolving local transportation system built upon the Comprehensive Plan's vision.

Federal regulations require that the LRTP be updated every five years to qualify projects for federal funding. To fulfill this requirement, an updated LRTP needs to be adopted in 2007 to extend the plan's vision to 2030.

Public Works/Utilities and the Planning Department lead the Comp Plan/LRTP update effort. As the op-

erator of the traffic system, Public Works helps determine the availability of resources and funding necessary to accommodate anticipated growth and the effect it will have on existing systems. The LRTP is updated largely based upon public input and the findings of a traffic model which serves as a tool to predict how traffic will move throughout the city as it continues to grow, as well as other factors, such as cost, environmental factors and socioeconomic impacts.

When needed issues are addressed and the Comp Plan/LRTP is updated, the draft will be forwarded to the Planning Commission for a public hearing. Once amended and approved by the Commission, the City Council, County Board and the Officials Committee of the Metropolitan Planning Organization will each review and take action on the plan.

"Please come and provide us with your thoughts," Fredrickson said. "The feedback people provide edu-

cates us on their needs or may remind us of things we haven't thought of and we'll move forward from there."

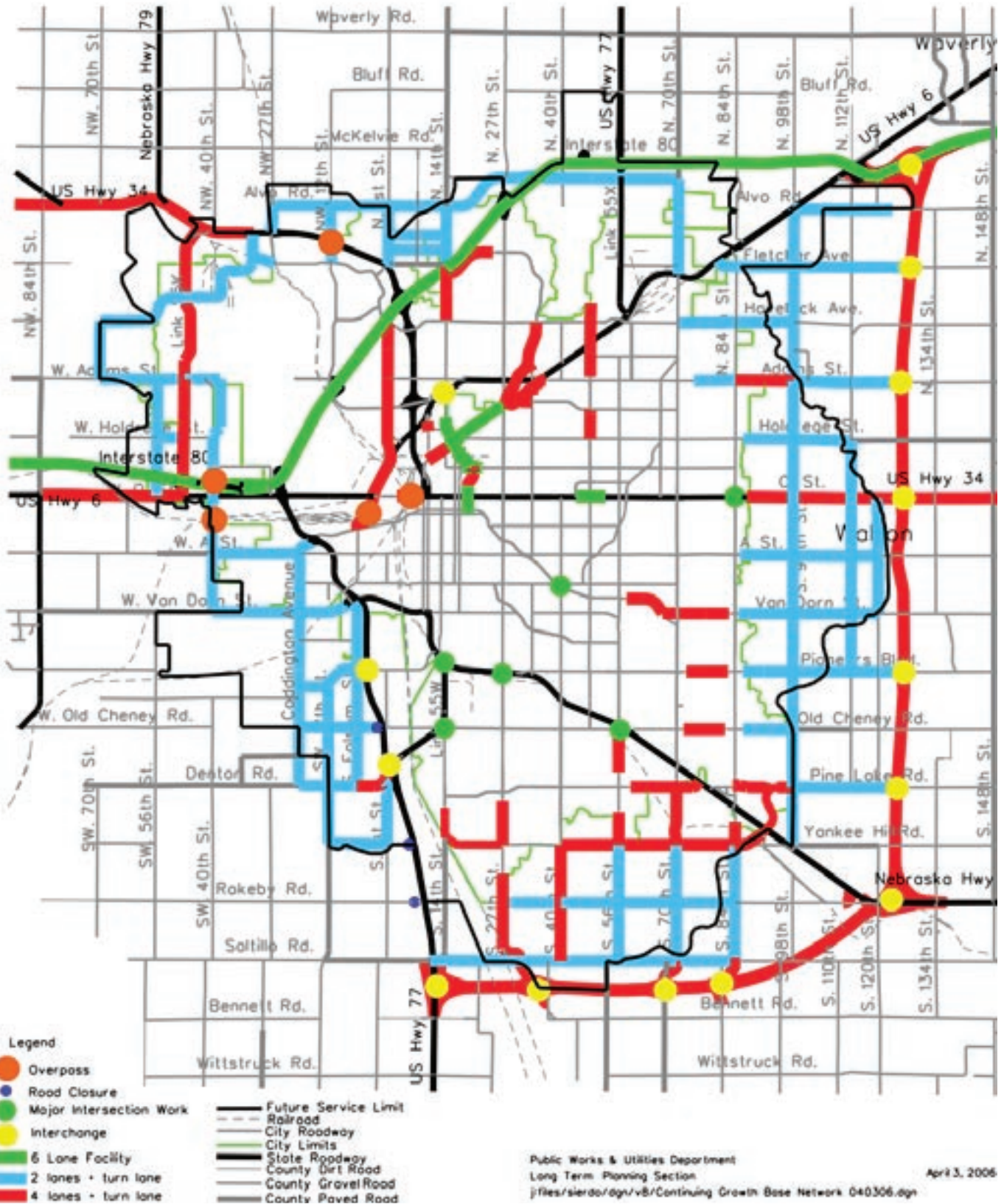
It's not just about cars ...

In addition to streets and highways, other modes of transportation will be under discussion during the open house and community forum. The Long Range Transportation Plan impacts public transit, motorized transport, bicycles and walking. Maps illustrating each will be available at the open house.

"The Long Range Transportation Plan establishes what the city and county's future roadway network will look like," said Karl Fredrickson, Director, Public Works/Utilities. "If you travel from Point A to Point B, this outlines what this route may look like in the future. But it's not just limited to vehicular traffic. If people like to get around by any means, this demonstrates how the city will provide these transportation networks, or not provide them as the case may be."

2030 Long Range Transportation Plan Update

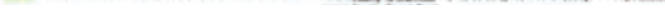
Lincoln Area Street and Roadway Improvements Continuing Growth Base Network



6-lane traffic on 'O' Street from Antelope Valley to 98th Tech. Rec. is added in Proposed Alternatives 1a, 6 and 7.



Lincoln Area Street and Roadway Improvements
Proposed Alternate 4 Additions to the “Continuing Growth Base Network”



Lincoln Area Street and Roadway Improvements
Proposed Alternate 5 Additions to the “Continuing Growth Base Network”



Lincoln Area Street and Roadway Improvements
Proposed Alternate 6 Additions to the “Continuing Growth Base Network”



Lincoln Area Street and Roadway Improvements
Proposed Alternate 7 Additions to the “Continuing Growth Base Network”



**Get
involved by:**

BLUEPRINT

From the Lincoln/Lancaster
County Metropolitan
Planning Organization

- E-mailing your ideas and comments to:
plan@lincoln.ne.gov
- Visiting the Web site,
www.lincoln.ne.gov,
Keyword “cpupdate”
- Faxing ideas to 441-6377
- Getting on the mailing list
by calling 441-7491
 - Attend future
Comp Plan/LRTP 2030
Update public meetings
- Contacting the Public
Works/Utilities Department
at 441-7548, or the Planning
Department at 441-7491



555 S. 10th St., Room 213
Lincoln, NE 68508

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Comp Plan/LRTP Update - Dates to remember

Long Range Transportation Plan Open House

Wednesday, May 3, 5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Engineering Services Training Room, 531 Westgate Blvd.

Transit Development Plan Open House

Thursday, May 11, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. at Energy Square, 1111 'O' St., Room 101

Thursday, May 11, 5 - 7 p.m. at Bennett Martin Library, 136 S. 14th St.

City-County Planning Commission Public Listening Forum

Your opportunity to publicly present ideas to the Commission!

Wednesday, May 17, 1:00 p.m.

County-City Building Hearing Chambers, 555 South 10th St.

Other meetings and events

Other meetings and events include meetings of the City-County Common, MPO Technical Committee, the City-County Planning Commission as well as future public open houses. Check the process Web site at www.lincoln.ne.gov, keyword “cpupdate” or call the Public Works/Utilities Department at 441-7548 or the City-County Planning Department at 441-7491.

Please note that all dates and times are subject to change. If you require special assistance at any of these events, please contact the Planning Department at 441-7491 at least 24 hours in advance.